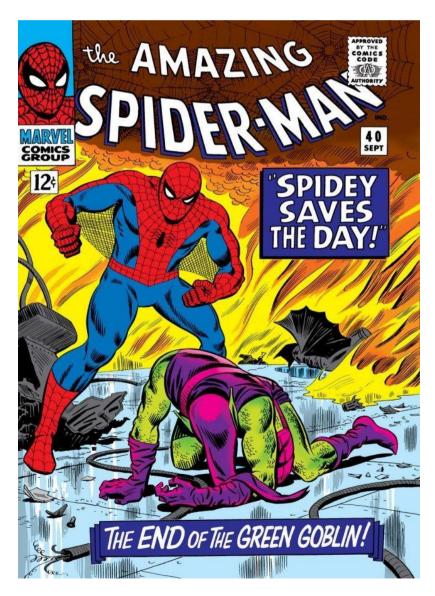




**VOLUME 1** 

1962 - 1967



# COMICS INDEX



# **VOLUME 1**

1962 - 1967

# COMICS INDEX

**LEONIDAS FRAGIAS** 

# The Arts & Charts Index to the Amazing Spider-Man

The format and design of this book is based on George Olshevsky's Marvel Index series and Murray Ward's DC Index series. Their books have a beautiful layout which was an inspiration for me.

The Official Marvel Index is a series of comic books released by Marvel Comics which featured synopses of several Marvel series. The books were largely compiled by George Olshevsky and featured detailed information on each issue in a particular series, including writer and artist credits, characters who appeared in the issue, and a story synopsis.

The Official Marvel Index was preceded by the Marvel Comics Index (also compiled by Olshevsky) and distributed by Pacific Comics Distributors sporadically from 1976-1982. These books were magazine-sized as opposed to comic-sized. The first Official Marvel Index titles were published in 1985, and produced regularly through August 1988.

A similar series of indices was published for DC Comics. The Official DC Index was released by Independent Comics Group (an imprint of Eclipse Comics) from 1985–1988. The books were edited by Murray Ward.

The data for this book is taken from various sources. I fill the gap of the missing data, since I have the complete collection of DC and Marvel comics from the 1930s to the present. Also I made some corrections, when the data is wrong.

The book series cover the silver age (the 1960s), the bronze age (from 1970 to 1985), and part of the modern age (post-1986) of Marvel Comics. This is my favorite era, when it comes to comics. Many thanks to DarkMark, George Olshevsky, Murray Ward, Mark Waid and Mike Tiefenbacher among others.

**Leonidas Fragias** 

#### **Amazing Fantasy #15**

"Spider-Man!"

A young, brilliant teenager attending a science exhibit of radioactive experiments is bitten by a radioactive spider. With his new found power he discovers that he can make his wildest dreams come true, until he is forced to learn a costly lesson.

Date: August 1962 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: Steve Ditko Cover Artist: Jack Kirby



#### **Amazing Spider-Man #1**

"Spider-Man"

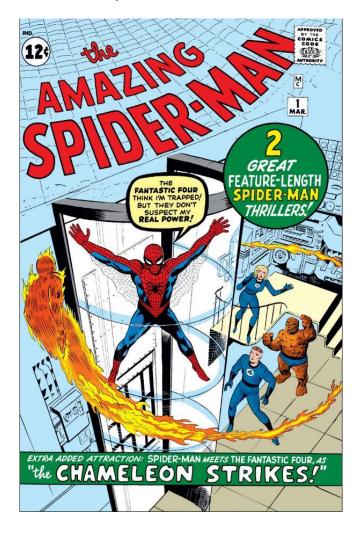
Peter Parker tries to continue a show biz career as Spider-Man, yet J. Jonah Jameson's editorials slamming him as a menace makes it hard to find work.

Date: March 1963 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: Steve Ditko Cover Artist: Jack Kirby

"Spider-Man vs. the Chameleon "

The criminal Chameleon breaks into a military building dressed as Spider-Man to steal missile plans. He is confronted by security officers who place the crime on Spider-Man.

Date: March 1963 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: Steve Ditko Cover Artist: Jack Kirby



"Duel to the Death With The Vulture!"

The Vulture, a thief with razor sharp wings and agility of a bird of prey targets Spider-man, who will have to keep his wits about him to defeat this villain.

Date: May 1963 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: Steve Ditko Cover Artist: Jack Kirby

"The Uncanny Threat of the Terrible Tinkerer"

The Tinkerer has strange out-worldly inventions that even the scientist Peter Parker has never seen before. The only thing more mysterious than his machines are his motives.

Date: May 1963 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: Steve Ditko Cover Artist: Steve Ditko



#### **Amazing Spider-Man #3**

"Spider-Man Versus Doctor Octopus"

Doctor Otto Octavious, a brilliant atomic scientist, is caught in an explosion when one of his experiments goes wrong, causing his brain damage and the mechanical arm apparatus he was wearing to fuse to his vertebrae. The demented Doctor still strives to carry on with his experiments and no one will stop him. Not even Spider-man!

Date: July 1963 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: Steve Ditko Cover Artist: Steve Ditko



#### "Nothing Can Stop the Sandman"

Flint Marko, an escapee from a maximum security prison and on the FBI's most wanted list, has started to rob banks. Spider-man stands in his way but soon discovers that there is a reason Flint is known as the Sandman!

Date: September 1963 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: Steve Ditko Cover Artist: Steve Ditko



# **Amazing Spider-Man #5**

"Marked for Destruction by Dr. Doom!"

Dr. Doom seeks an ally and believes that Spider-Man's strength combined with his could defeat the Fantastic Four forever. Naturally he is turned down by our hero but Dr. Doom teaches Spider-man that to not be with him is to be against him.

Date: October 1963 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: Steve Ditko Cover Artist: Steve Ditko



"Face-to-Face with the Lizard!"

In the swamps of Florida, a creature has appeared and is terrorizing the local inhabitants. The Bugle has issued a provocation on Spider-man to defeat this abomination and so Peter Parker finds himself traveling to Florida. Where Spider-man will face off against the Lizard!

Date: November 1963 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: Steve Ditko Cover Artist: Steve Ditko

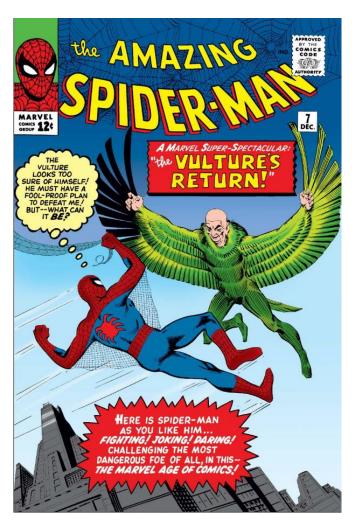


# **Amazing Spider-Man #7**

"The Return of the Vulture"

The Vulture has broken out of prison and created a new flying device. Spider-man can no longer rely on his anti-magnetic inverter to defeat him as he renews his terror on New York.

Date: December 1963 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: Steve Ditko Cover Artist: Steve Ditko



"The Terrible Threat of the Living Brain"

A humanoid robot begins to run amok in Peter Parker's high school when two technicians accidentally short circuit the control panel. Now it is up to Spider-man to stop this Living Brain.

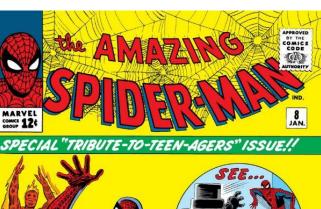
Date: January 1964 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: Steve Ditko Cover Artist: Steve Ditko

"Spider-Man Tackles the Torch "

Spider-man crashes a private party he finds himself face to face with the  $\,$ 

Human Torch.

Date: January 1964 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: Jack Kirby Cover Artist: Steve Ditko





#### **Amazing Spider-Man #9**

"The Man Called Electro!"

Max Dillon was an ordinary electric pole-man when a lightning bolt struck him, giving him the power to generate electricity from his own body! Now as Electro nothing can stop him from taking anything he wants except the amazing Spider-man!

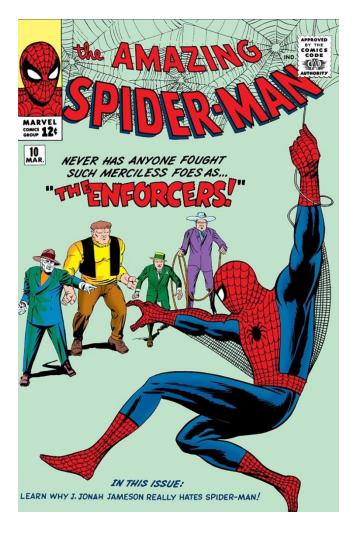
Date: February 1964
Writer: Stan Lee
Artist: Steve Ditko
Cover Artist: Steve Ditko



#### "The Enforcers!"

A new crime lord has started to take over the New York syndicates. His name is the Big Man and with his Enforcers to back him up it seems that only Spider-man has the power to stop him.

Date: March 1964 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: Jack Kirby Cover Artist: Steve Ditko



#### **Amazing Spider-Man #11**

#### "Turning Point"

After serving his prison term Doctor Otto Octavius has been released! Meanwhile Peter Parker is dealing with his feelings over the disappearance of Betty Brant. Will this affect him as Spider-man when he may have to stop Doctor Octopus for the second time?!

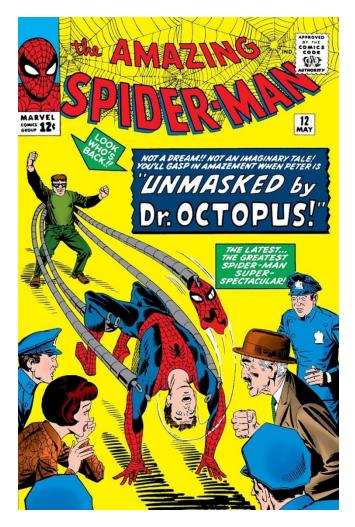
Date: April 1964 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: Steve Ditko Cover Artist: Steve Ditko



"Unmasked By Doctor Octopus!"

Doctor Octopus escaped from Spider-man in Philadelphia and has been on a crime spree ever since. Finally returning to New York to confront his nemesis, he kidnaps Betty Brant and uses her as bait to get a confrontation with the amazing Spider-man!

Date: May 1964 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: Steve Ditko Cover Artist: Steve Ditko



# **Amazing Spider-Man #13**

"The Menace of... Mysterio!"

Spider-man has turned to crime?! Even Peter Parker doesn't know if he is guilty or not but there is one man who has the answers; the infamous Mysterio!

Date: June 1964 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: Steve Ditko Cover Artist: Steve Ditko



"The Grotesque Adventure of the Green Goblin"

Spider-man is starring in a movie directed by the Oscar winning B.J. Cosmos. In a fight scene with the Enforcers and the Green Goblin, Spiderman realizes that they are not actors but the real thing!

Date: July 1964 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: Steve Ditko Cover Artist: Steve Ditko



# **Amazing Spider-Man #15**

"Kraven the Hunter!"

The Chameleon has returned! Realizing that Spider-man needs to be eliminated before he can take hold of the crime world, he hires the most dangerous stalker on Earth to find and destroy our hero, Kraven the Hunter!

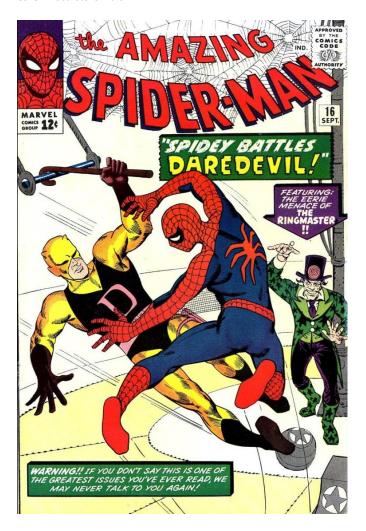
Date: August 1964 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: Steve Ditko Cover Artist: Steve Ditko



"Duel with Daredevil"

Spider-man performs at a circus for charity. What he doesn't know is that the Ring-master is running the show!

Date: September 1964 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: Steve Ditko Cover Artist: Steve Ditko



# **Amazing Spider-Man #17**

"The Return of the Green Goblin!"

Flash Thomson has started a Spider-man fan club and promises that Spider-man will appear in person. Spidey hears his call but finds that one of the fans is the Human Torch and the Green Goblin?!

Date: October 1964 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: Steve Ditko Cover Artist: Steve Ditko

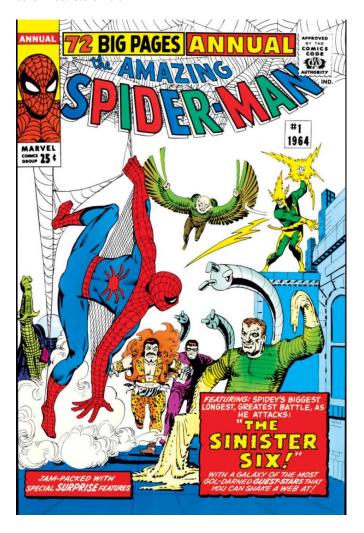


# **Amazing Spider-Man Annual #1**

"The Sinister Six"

Doctor Octopus has escaped from prison and gathered together Elektro, Kraven, Sandman, the Vulture, and Mysterio. Together they have kidnapped Aunt May and Betty Brant to use as bait for Spider-man. Meanwhile Peter Parker has lost his powers and without them how can he defeat the Sinister Six?!

Date: October 1964 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: Steve Ditko Cover Artist: Steve Ditko



# **Amazing Spider-Man #18**

"The End of Spider-Man!"

Aunt May is recovering from a heart attack and Peter Parker has to be there for her. Unable to risk his life, while as Spider-man, he will have to avoid every encounter with his enemies!

Date: November 1964 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: Steve Ditko Cover Artist: Steve Ditko



"Spidey Strikes Back!"

Now that Aunt May is feeling better, Peter Parker is free to act as Spiderman once again! The Enforcers and Sandman have captured the Human Torch and plan to use him as bait to defeat Spider-man once and for all!

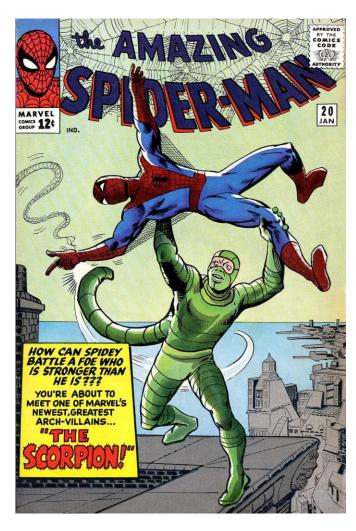
Date: December 1964 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: Steve Ditko Cover Artist: Steve Ditko



# **Amazing Spider-Man #20**

"The Coming of the Scorpion! OR: Spidey Battles Scorpey!"
Why is Peter Parker being followed by a mysterious man? He turns out to be a detective employed by Jameson, who laters accepts Jameson's request to be part of the experiments of Dr.Farley Stillwell. His abilities will be enchanced to those of a scorpion in order for Spiderman to face his strongest foe yet.

Date: January 1965 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: Steve Ditko Cover Artist: Steve Ditko



"Where flies the Beetle...!"

A feud between Johnny and Peter Parker is started over the Johnny's girlfriend. However, they will have to put their differences aside to face the menace of the Beetle.

Date: February 1965 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: Steve Ditko Cover Artist: Steve Ditko



# **Amazing Spider-Man #22**

"Preeeeesenting...The Clown, And The Masters Of Menace!"
The Circus of Crime is back and this time they have sacked the Ringmaster from the team and asigned a new leader. They decide to rob an art exhibition where J. Jonah Jameson is visiting.

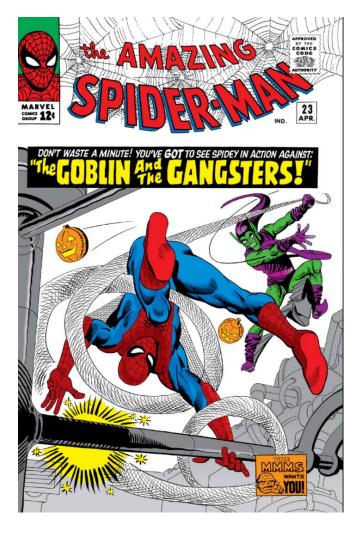
Date: March 1965 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: Steve Ditko Cover Artist: Steve Ditko



"The Goblin And The Gangsters"

The Green Goblin has decided to take control of the city's mafia in order to increase his power, and neither the mafia's kingpin nor Spiderman are going to let him get away with it.

Date: April 1965 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: Steve Ditko Cover Artist: Steve Ditko



# **Amazing Spider-Man #24**

"Spider-Man Goes Mad!"

A mysterious psychologist appears at The Daily Bugle, explaining how he believes Spiderman suffers from severe mental disorders. Parker dismisses this but shortly after starts seeing his old foes appear and dissappear at will. Does Spiderman really need a mind check or is there any logical explanation to what's happening?

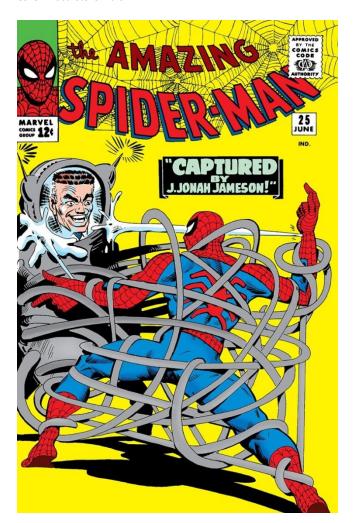
Date: May 1965 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: Steve Ditko Cover Artist: Steve Ditko



"Captured By J.Jonah Jameson!"

Spencer Smythe offers Jonah Jameson a robot with the ability to track down and capture Spiderman, putting in peril not only Spiderman's safety but also his secret identity.

Date: June 1965 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: Steve Ditko Cover Artist: Steve Ditko

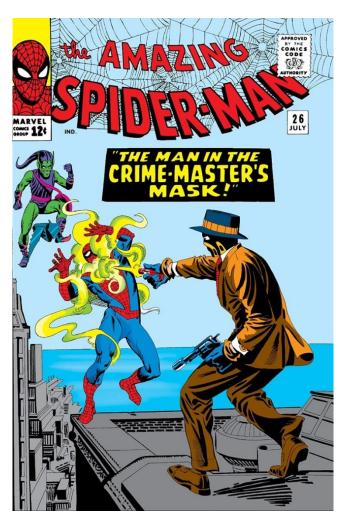


# **Amazing Spider-Man #26**

"The Man in the Crime-Master's Mask!"

Spidey has to a multiple problems. He lost his costumes and the Green Goblin has returned, who now seeks an alliance with a villain called the Crime Master. Has Frederick Foswell has return to crime?

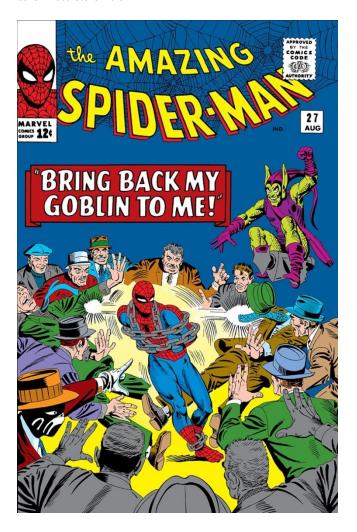
Date: July 1965 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: Steve Ditko Cover Artist: Steve Ditko



"Bring Back My Goblin to Me!"

Spider-Man is captured by the Green Goblin and turned over to the city gangs to earn their loyalties. Can Spider-Man escape and take on both the Green Goblin and the Crime Master?

Date: August 1965 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: Steve Ditko Cover Artist: Steve Ditko

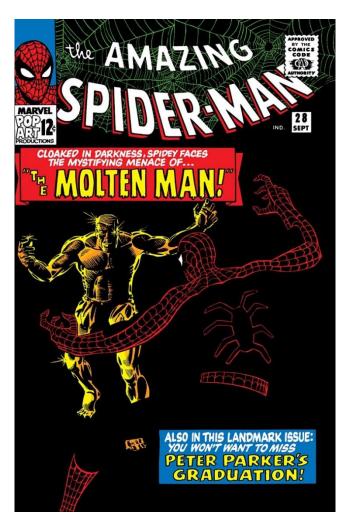


# **Amazing Spider-Man #28**

"The Menace Of The Molten Man!"

When Dr. Smythe's partner accidentally spills special liquid metal alloy on his skin, changing the mans in amazing and dangerous ways.

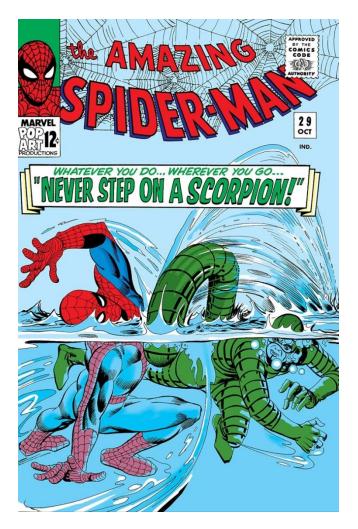
Date: September 1965 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: Steve Ditko Cover Artist: Steve Ditko



"Never Step On A Scorpion!"

The Scorpion has escaped from prison and it's up to Spider-Man to find a way to beat his old foe before Jameson gets hurt.

Date: October 1965 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: Steve Ditko Cover Artist: Steve Ditko



# **Amazing Spider-Man Annual #2**

"The Wondrous World of Dr. Strange"

Spider-Man and Doctor Strange must work together to defeat physical threat of the sanctum and the mystic threat of Xandu.

Date: October 1965 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: Steve Ditko Cover Artist: Steve Ditko



"The Claws Of The Cat!"

Spider-man tries to capture a villain and claim a reward while Peter deals with news from Betty Brant.

Date: November 1965 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: Steve Ditko Cover Artist: Steve Ditko

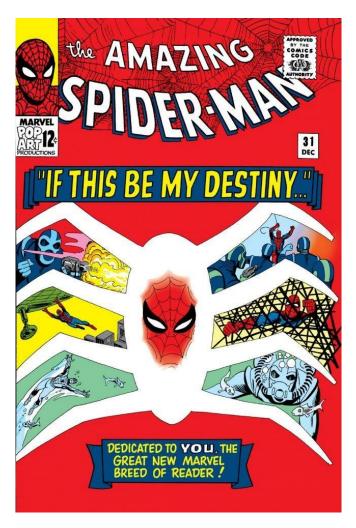


# **Amazing Spider-Man #31**

"If This Be My Destiny...!"

Peter has started life in college and Aunt May's illness is revealed. Can Peter navigate a social life on campus, worry for his aunt, and his identity as Spider-Man?

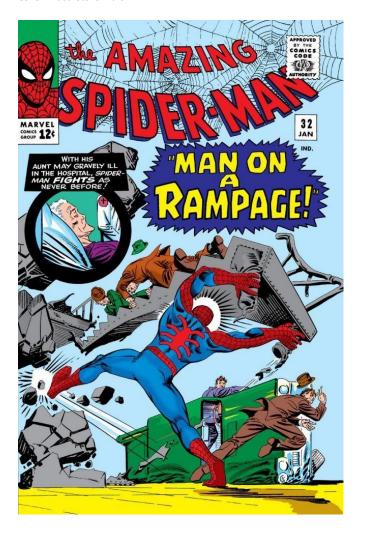
Date: December 1965 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: Steve Ditko Cover Artist: Steve Ditko



"Man On A Rampage!"

When part of a cure for Aunt May is stolen by the Master Planner, can Spider-Man get to it before it loses its potency?

Date: January 1966 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: Steve Ditko Cover Artist: Steve Ditko



# **Amazing Spider-Man #33**

"The Final Chapter!"

Can Spider-Man rescue himself, grab the ingredients for his Aunt's serum, and fight his way out before he succumbs to exhaustion?

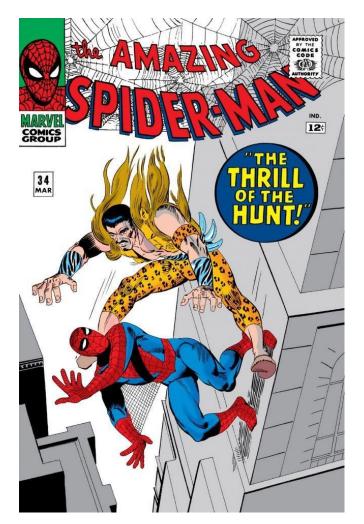
Date: February 1966 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: Steve Ditko Cover Artist: Steve Ditko



"The Thrill of the Hunt"

Exuberant at the recovery of his Aunt May, Spider-Man is quickly brought back to Earth by Kraven the Hunter's latest trap. Also, Betty Brant must finally decide whether she can be with Peter.

Date: March 1966
Writer: Stan Lee
Artist: Steve Ditko
Cover Artist: Steve Ditko

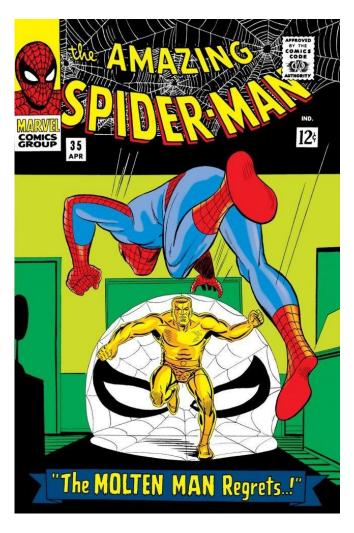


# **Amazing Spider-Man #35**

"The Molten Man Regrets...!"

The Molten Man is released from prison and attempts to rob a jewelry store in disguise so Spider-Man can't prove it was him.

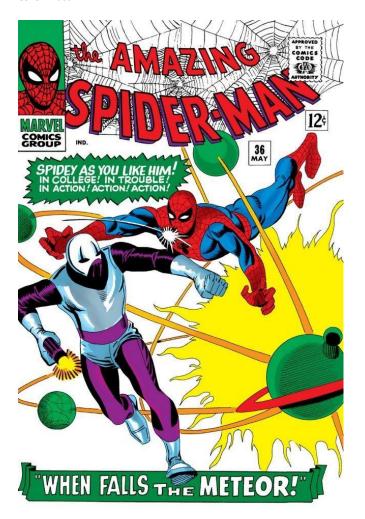
Date: April 1966 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: Steve Ditko Cover Artist: Steve Ditko



"When Falls the Meteor!"

The Looter attempts to steal meteor and Spider-Man is in his way. Meanwhile, Peter tries to become socially accepted as ESU.

Date: May 1966 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: Steve Ditko Cover Artist:



# **Amazing Spider-Man #37**

"Once Upon A Time ,There Was A Robot...!"

Professor Stromm is released from prison and wants revenge on the man who sent him there. Spider-Man comes face to face with the robots created to do the job.

Date: June 1966 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: Steve Ditko Cover Artist: Steve Ditko



#### "Just A Guy Named Joe!"

An out-of-luck stuntman collapses on set into a pool of chemicals, and awakens with super strength and a bad attitude. Spidey must settle him down AND deal with on onslaught of reward-seeking thugs hoping put him out of action.

Date: July 1966 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: Steve Ditko Cover Artist: Steve Ditko

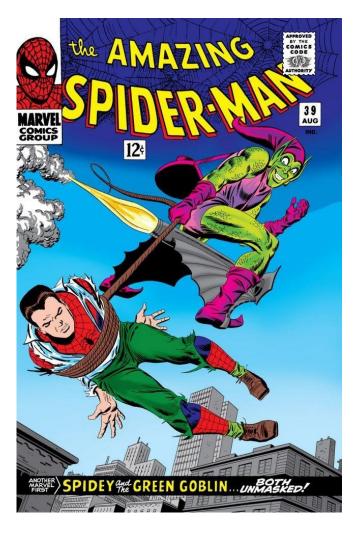


# **Amazing Spider-Man #39**

"How Green Was My Goblin!"

Returning with upgraded weapons and equipment, The Green Goblin hatches a plan to reveal Spider-Man's identity and defeat him once and for all. Robbed of his Spider Sense and worrying about Aunt May, Peter makes a careless mistake...

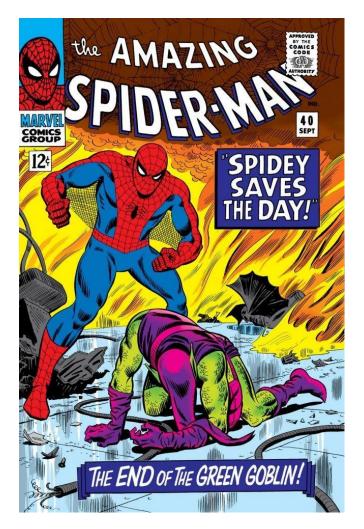
Date: August 1966 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: John Romita Sr. Cover Artist: John Romita Sr.



"Spidey Saves the Day!"

While attempting to free himself from the clutches of the Green Goblin, Spider-Man goads him into revealing his origin. Using the ruse to buy time, Spidey is able to escape and confront the deadly adversary...with surprising results!

Date: September 1966 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: John Romita Sr. Cover Artist: John Romita Sr.

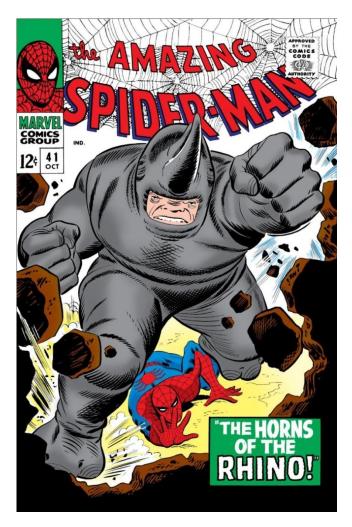


#### **Amazing Spider-Man #41**

"The Horns of the Rhino!"

After encountering "space spores" on his last mission, Colonel John Jameson pays a visit to his dad in NYC, and reveals they may have had unknown effects on him. Seeking to cash-in on the event, a new villain emerges and kidnaps the astronaut, and Spidey is forced into a fierce battle for the life of Jonah's son.

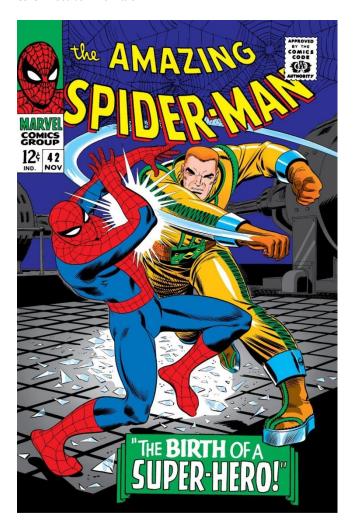
Date: October 1966 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: John Romita Sr. Cover Artist: John Romita Sr.



"The Birth of a Super-Hero!"

Spider-Man is seen breaking into a bank vault. When the newly space spore powered John Jameson hears of this, he decides to hunt down Spider-Man.

Date: November 1966 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: John Romita Sr. Cover Artist: John Romita Sr.



# **Amazing Spider-Man Annual #3**

"...To Become An Avenger!"

Upon receiving an invitation to join The Mighty Avengers, Spider-Man undertakes an arduous pair of tests to prove himself worthy. Will Spidey be up to the task, or will the Avenger's trial reveal him as a fraud?

Date: November 1966 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: Don Heck Cover Artist: Steve Ditko



"Rhino on the Rampage!"

When the Rhino's tranquilizer wears off, he makes good his escape and goes on a rampage through the city to draw the web slinger's attention.

Date: December 1966 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: John Romita Sr. Cover Artist: John Romita Sr.

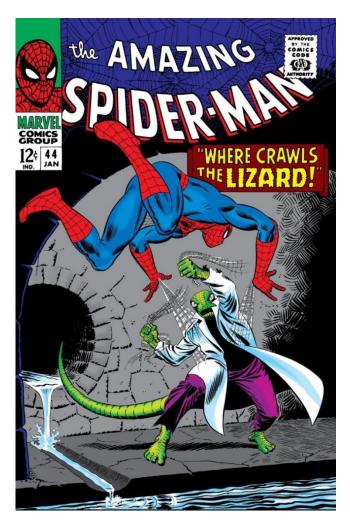


# **Amazing Spider-Man #44**

"Where Crawls the Lizard!"

Dr. Conners preparations for his wife and son to come to New York are interrupted by his change into the Lizard. Mrs. Conners fears the worst, and Spider-Man agrees to help her track down her husband.

Date: January 1967 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: John Romita Sr. Cover Artist: John Romita Sr.



"Spidey Smashes Out!"

Spider-Man must face the Lizard with an injured arm. When the Lizard unleashes a horde of reptiles, can Spider-Man persevere and defeat the mutated scientist?

Date: February 1967 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: John Romita Sr. Cover Artist: John Romita Sr.



# **Amazing Spider-Man #46**

"The Sinister Shocker!"

Peter struggles with keeping his secret identity, a decision that will impact both him and Aunt May, and a villain who can vibrate whole buildings.

Date: March 1967 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: John Romita Sr. Cover Artist: John Romita Sr.



"In the Hands of the Hunter!"

Kraven the Hunter is released from jail and goes after Norman Osborn for payback while Gwen throws a going away party for Flash and everyone shows up to see Flash off.

Date: April 1967 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: John Romita Sr. Cover Artist: John Romita Sr.



# **Amazing Spider-Man #48**

"The Wings of the Vulture!"

Adrian Toomes reveals the hidden location of his Vulture wings to a fellow inmate after an accident leaves him on his deathbed. Now an under the weather Peter, who has come down with a cold while tracking Kraven the Hunter, must find a way to fight the New Vulture.

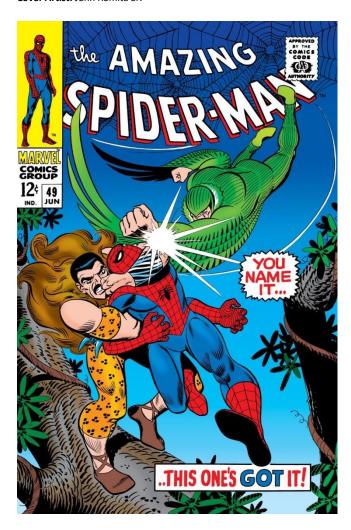
Date: May 1967 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: John Romita Sr. Cover Artist: John Romita Sr.



"From the Depths of Defeat!"

After the Vulture is featured on television Kraven decides to hunt him down and prove he is superior. Having recovered from his cold, Spider-Man heads to the exhibit hall to capture both villains.

Date: June 1967 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: John Romita Sr. Cover Artist: John Romita Sr.

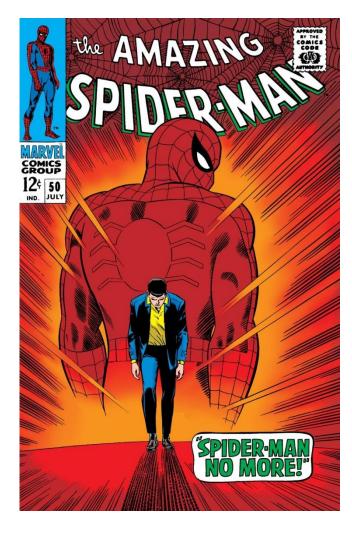


# **Amazing Spider-Man #50**

"Spider-Man No More!"

Peter becomes frustrated with his life and decides to throw away his Spider-Man outfit and quit being Spider-Man. Without the vigilante on the loose, The Kingpin of Crime makes his move to unite New York's crime syndicates.

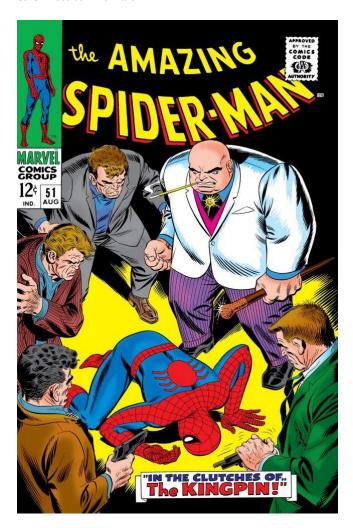
Date: July 1967 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: John Romita Sr. Cover Artist: John Romita Sr.



"In the Clutches of the Kingpin!"

The Kingpin acquires Foswell's allegiance and decides to silence J. Jonah Jameson. Peter, having picked back up his Spider-Man guise, goes against the crime spreading through the city.

Date: August 1967 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: John Romita Sr. Cover Artist: John Romita Sr.

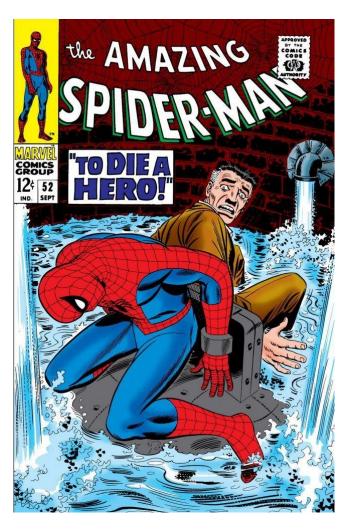


# **Amazing Spider-Man #52**

"To Die a Hero!"

To keep his hands from getting dirty, the Kingpin arranges for accompliances to drown Spider-Man and Jameson.

Date: September 1967 Writer: Stan Lee Artist: John Romita Sr. Cover Artist: John Romita Sr.





# **VOLUME 1**

1962 - 1967

#### An Explanation of the Comics Index

In this series, we examine every issue of every DC and Marvel comic book of the silver and the bronze age and also provide you with a color reproduction of the comic's cover, a complete listing of the creative people involved in producing the comic, a summary of what happened in each adventure, and various other information.

All comics indexed in a series will run in serial order, beginning with the first issue or the earliest issue that features the series being indexed. Each of the index entries is as self-explanatory as possible. Some of the criteria we used to create an index entry are provided below.

#### **Cover Credits**

It usually takes many people to produce a comic book cover, from conception and design through coloring and production, and it is impossible to credit them all. The Artist, responsible for the basic execution of the cover, does the lion's share of the work. If more than one artist works on a cover, some usually pencil and the others usually ink.

Records of artists and letterers are sometimes unavailable, particularly for covers that appeared many years ago, so the identities of some cover artists and letterers are the best guesses that the indexers and DC's and Marvel's current editors and art staff can make. Credits other than Artist or Artists and Letterer appear where known.

#### **Story Information**

Story titles are given as they appear on the title pages, not as on the covers or in coming attractions. When a story lacks a title or title page (a rare occurrence), a note to this effect appears as a Comment.

Story credits are taken from the credits as published. As with cover credits, it is impossible to credit everybody who worked on a story, but whenever additional information is available, it appears in the Index. If the published credits in a story are incorrect, the Index corrects them wherever possible.

#### Chronology

A time line for all of DC's and Marvel's comics that allows proper chronological ordering of the appearances of every DC and Marvel character is far from complete. Nevertheless, some appearances are known to precede or follow others. Whenever chronological information is known reliably but is not obvious from the continuity of the stories, it is noted in parentheses. "First appearance" accompanies a character's listing when the comic is the earliest one in which the character appears. A first appearance is not necessarily a character's chronologically earliest appearance, which might occur, for example, in an origin flashback first told many years later. As a general rule, in the case of feature characters who are members of a team but who also appear in their own features or comics, issue-by-issue chronological notations for these characters are made in the indexes to their own features, not in the index to the team feature. For instance, Superman's chronology is noted in The Superman Index, not in The Justice League of America Index.

A casual reading of a few Plot Synopses will make it abundantly clear that a whole month does not usually pass for the characters in between monthly issues of a comic. Many issues begin hours or even minutes after the previous month's story. Consequently, a character who has had his own feature for ten years will not have aged ten years in the time it took for those comics to come out. As for trying to determine in what year a given adventure takes place, there's no conclusive answer. Specific dates that appear in stories, as well as mention of current events and popular culture, depictions of contemporary fashions, and usage of contemporary slang, are all what is known as Topical References. These are specific details added by a writer or artist to a story to make it seem current at the time the story is being published. They are not necessarily indicators of when — what year or even what decade — a story took place.